LIBRARY

SWAFFHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

HEALTH
A 26 APR 1944
C.R. 37

Report for year ending December 31st. 1942.

by the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

To the Chairman and Members of the Rural District Council.

Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the health of the District for the year 1942. This will be an Interim Report, but Statistics and other information is recorded and kept for reference to enable a continuation of Reports at the end of the year.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Live Births,			
Legitimate	130	74	56
Illegitimate	10	5	5

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population.....17.7.....

Still Births,			
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	1	-	1

Rate per 1,000 (Live or Still) Births.....12.....

Deaths .....110.....

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated Resident population.....13.9.....

Deaths from Puerperal causes (Headings 29 & 30) of the Registrar General's Short List

		Deaths.	Rate for 1,000 total Live & Still Births.
No. 29	Puerperal Sepsis	Nil.	Nil.
No. 30	Other Puerperal causes	Nil.	Nil.

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Deaths of Infants under 1 year	9	5	4

All Infants per 1,000 live births.....64.3.....

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births.....16.5.....

Illegitimate ditto. .....1.2.....

Deaths from Cancer all ages.....19.....

Deaths from Measles " " .....Nil.....

Deaths from Whooping Cough all ages.....1.....

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 yrs. of age)....Nil.

Particulars of any unusual or excessive mortality during the year which has received or required comment :

Tuberculosis: 7 male persons between the ages of 50 & 65 died during the year.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water Supplies.

No. of samples taken during the year:- 7

Analysis of Samples. Satisfactory. 5
Unfit. 2

Wells cleaned and repaired..... 3

A sample was also taken from a pit used for watering cattle, into which it was thought phosphorus bombs had fallen. The analysis did not show any arsenical content, but the pit was thoroughly cleaned out with advantage to the cattle and future supply.

Rivers & Streams. Many streams are choked with silt and debris of long standing, and would benefit by cleaning.

Drainage & Sewerage. ~~There~~

Reconstructions.....2

Drains & Cesspools cleared....2

New drainage systems.....2

Closet Accommodation. The old insanitary privy vaults are converted to the pail system wherever possible, and quite a few have been completely converted to the more modern water system. The difficulty in some parishes with regard to the proper disposal of night soil still presents a problem and more facilities should be provided for the disposal of this refuse.

No. of Privy Vaults converted..... 6

Additional Sanitary conveniences provided.2

Public Cleansing. There is no public system of controlled scavenging in this area. The parishes of Sporle, Gt. Cressingham, Foulden, Gooderstone and Bradenham have a Scheme for the collection and disposal of tins, bottles, ashes and similar refuse. These collections are made three or four times per year and the scheme is much appreciated by the householders. In the villages of Necton and Mundford, the householders throw tins, glass etc. into, or more generally near, a pit, with resulting danger to cattle and persons. The accumulations thus formed are unsightly and a potential breeding ground for rats. A controlled scheme in every village would in my opinion remove this nuisance.

Salvage of Waste Paper, Rags, Bones &c. Your Sanitary Inspector is Chief Salvage Officer and 55 tons were collected during the year.

Inspections carried out under the Housing and Public Health Acts.

Complaints investigated.....78

Inspections made under:-
Housing Acts.....205

Public Health Acts.....171

No. of Preliminary Notices..... 33

" " Statutory " .....Nil.

(a) Housing Acts..... 18
(b) Public Health Acts..... 15

No of houses repaired or improved:

By informal action..... 20
" formal action.....Nil.

No. of houses disinfected:

Infectious or contagious disease..... 35

Other reasons, i.e. verminous..... 21

Miscellaneous visits (57) & interviews (32)..... 89

Inspections of Cowsheds & Dairies.....313

Bakehouses..... 18

Evacuation. 37 Billets and cottages occupied by evacuated persons were visited. Children suffering from scabies and other diseases were removed to isolation hospitals, and Institutions. Houses and bedding etc. were fumigated.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply. Shortage of labour and materials have resulted in postponing some improvements, but the visits and instruction on methods of milking, and cleanliness, are having effect. Milking by machine is being carried out by an increasing number of producers.

4 cowsheds were reconstructed to modern standards.

Milk (Special Designation) Order, 1938.

31 samples were taken as under:

18 samples taken.		11 passed the test.			Failures,	7
7 Repeats	"	4	"	"	"	3
3 2nd. "	"	2	"	"	"	1
3 3rd. "	"	2	"	"	"	1

One Accredited producer gave up the trade of cowkeeper.

Samples were also submitted for Biological testing for Tubercle Baccilli.

School Milk. 7 samples were taken from supplies.delivered to the schools. Of these, only 2 passed the test and 5 failed.

Meat Inspection and other foods.

Your Sanitary Inspector carried out the duties of meat Inspector for the Borough of Thetford and Urban District of Swaffham.

Notifiable Disease. (Other than Tuberculosis)

Disease.	Cases notified.	Admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
C.S.F.	1		
Smallpox	Nil.		
Scarlet Fever	15	11	
Diphtheria	Nil.		
Enteric Fever incl.Para typhoid	2	1	1
Puerperal Fever	2		
Pneumonia	2		
Erysipelas	3		
Whooping Cough	59		
Measles	17		

Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious Disease, and other diseases.

An outbreak of Infective Enteritis occurred at one of the Military Camps. Measures were taken to combat the disease by the Army Medical Services.

Scarlet Fever was scattered with the exception of one village where a whole family consisting of mother and five children were removed to Hospital.

Measles and whooping cough were mainly scattered throughout the district.

Tuberculosis.

New cases and Mortality during the year 1942.

Age Periods.	New cases. Respiratory. M.	New cases. Respiratory. F.	New cases. Non. Resp. M.	New cases. Non. Resp. F.	Deaths. Resp. M.	Deaths. Resp. F.	Deaths. Non. Resp. M.	Deaths. Non. Resp. F.
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
50	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
60	1	-	-	-	5	-	-	-
TOTALS.	3	4	1	-	7	-	-	-

A Register of all cases is kept. Premises are disinfected after deaths or removal to Hospital.

The number of cases on the Register at the end of the year were 37. This shows an increase of 4 compared with 1939 and is mainly due to patients being transferred from evacuated areas.

I have the honour to be,
Ladies & Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

C. S. HALL-SMITH.

typhoidosus 27, and dysenteriae, Infectious Diseases, and other diseases.

An outbreak of Infectious Hepatitis occurred at one of the military camps. Measures were taken to control the disease by the Army Medical Services.

Enteric Fever was confined with the exception of one village where a whole family consisting of mother and five children were removed to hospital.

Herein and sleeping cards were widely scattered throughout the district.

Vaccination.

Cases and Mortality during the year 1940.

Age Periods.	Non Fever.				Fever.			
	Vaccinated.		Non Vacc.		Vacc.		Non Vacc.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	1	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
Total.	3	4	1	-	7	-	-	-

A Reflex of all cases is kept. Premises are disinfected after death or removal to hospital.

The number of cases on the Registers at the end of the year were 37. This shows an increase of 4 compared with 1939 and is mainly due to deaths being transferred from evacuated Lareas.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

G. E. HALL-SMITH.